



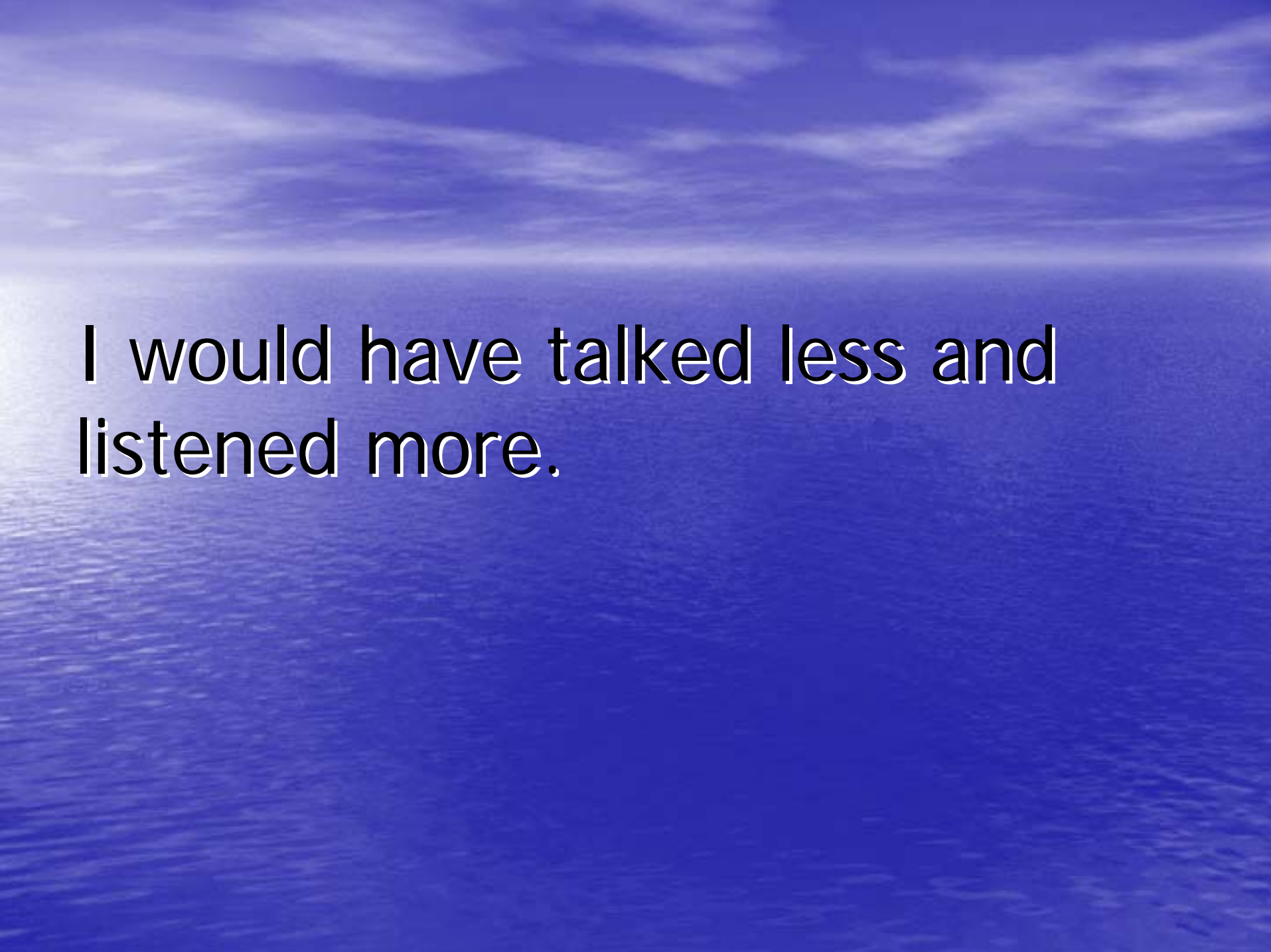
IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER

by Erma Bombeck

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would have burned the pink  
candle sculpted like a rose  
before it melted in storage.





I would have talked less and  
listened more.

I would have invited friends  
over to dinner even if the carpet  
was stained or the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

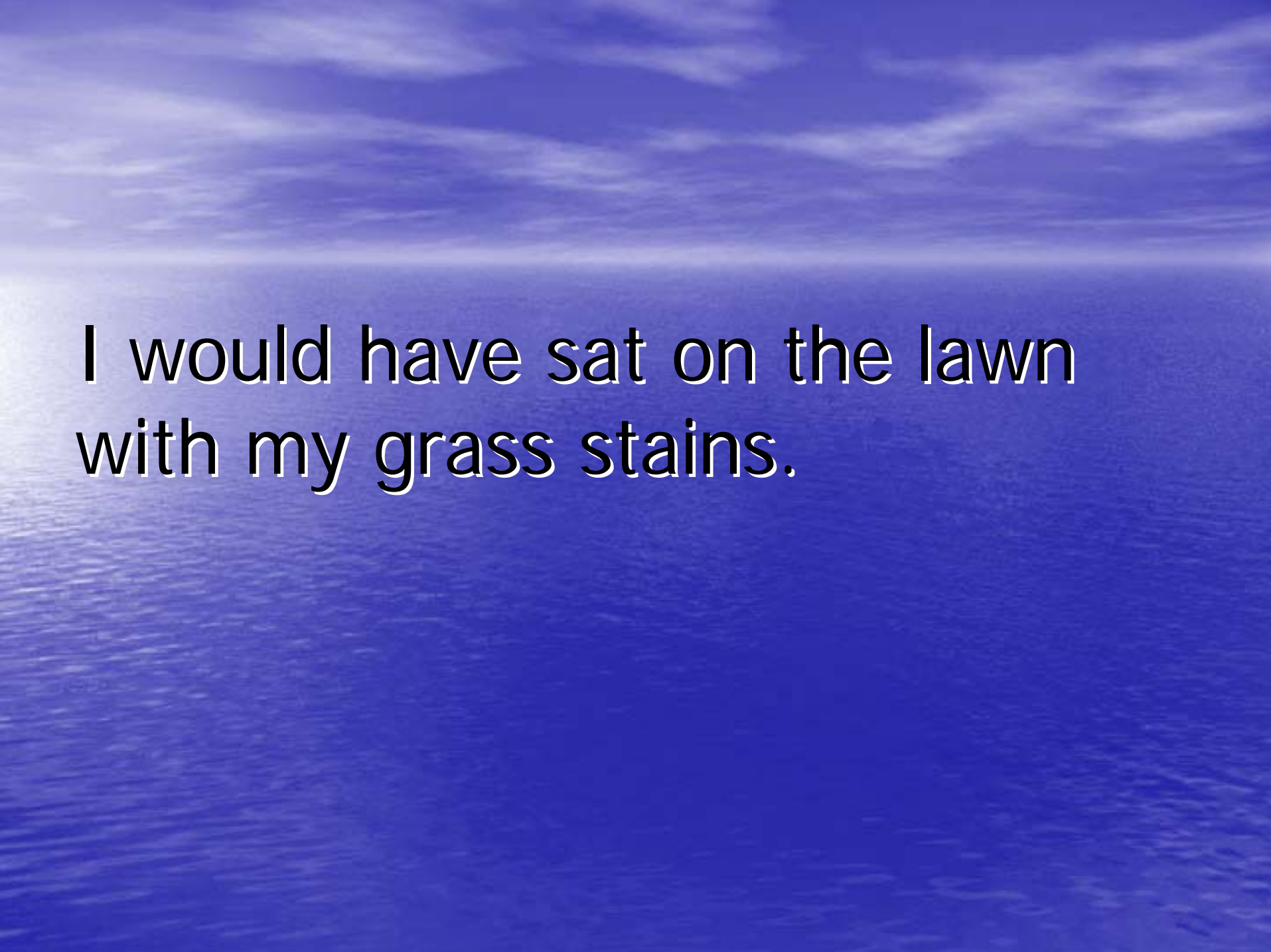


I would have taken the time to  
listen to my grandfather ramble  
about his youth.

I would have shared more of  
the responsibility carried by my  
husband.



I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.



I would have sat on the lawn  
with my grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed  
less while watching television  
and more while watching life.



I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil, or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

When my kids kissed me  
impetuously, I would never  
have said, "Later. Now go get  
washed up for dinner."



There would have been more "I love you's." More "I'm sorry's."

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute, look at it and really see it, live it and never give it back.

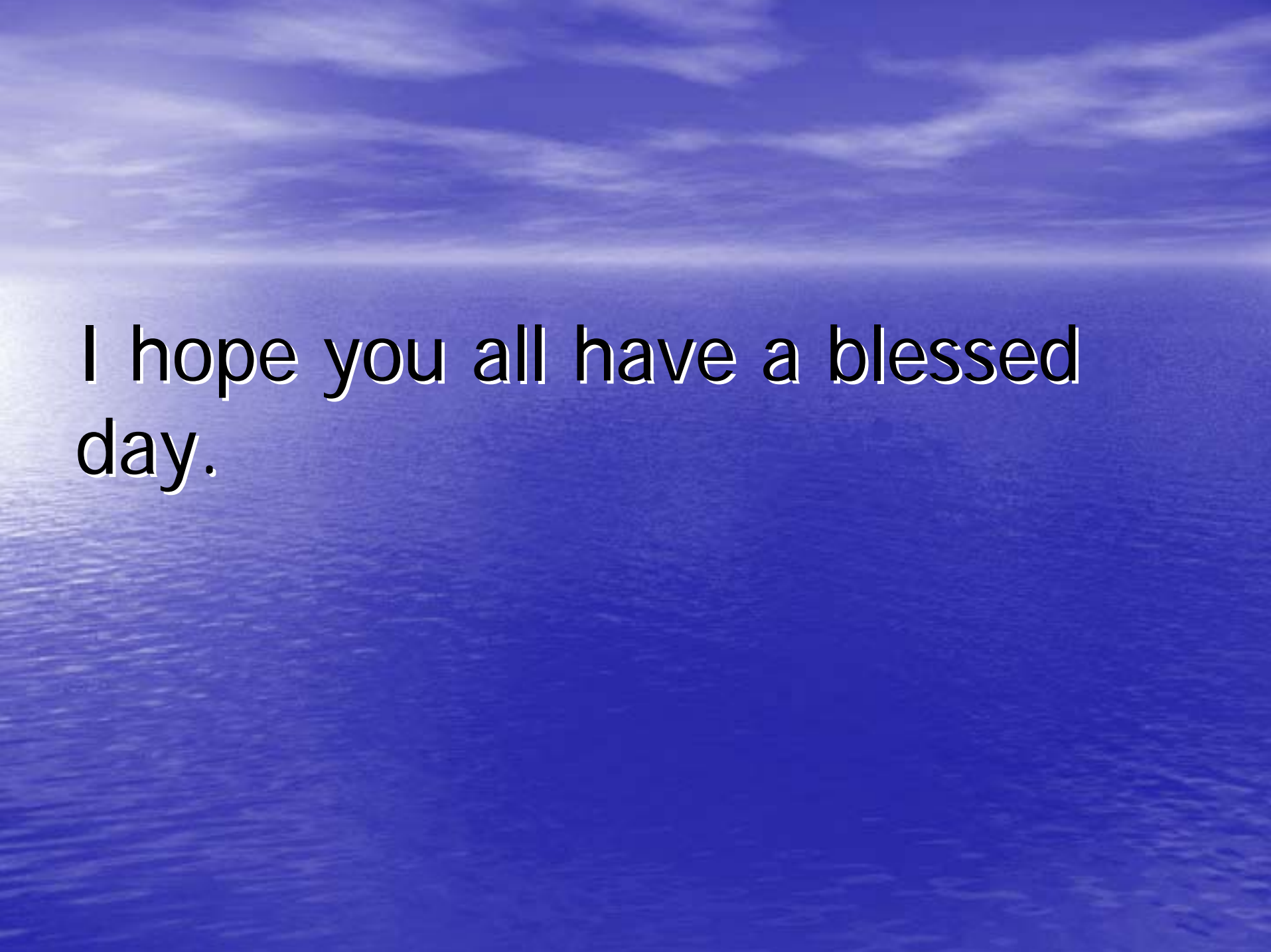


Stop sweating the small stuff.



Don't worry about who doesn't like you, who has more, or who's doing what. Instead, let's cherish the relationships we have with those who do love us.

Let's think about what God HAS blessed us with and what we are doing each day to promote ourselves mentally, physically, emotionally.



I hope you all have a blessed  
day.